

Appendix D

Mitigation Measures

(Alternative A, and B as appropriate)

Mitigation Measures for Wildlife

Turbines

- Implement a lighting scheme as required by FAA regulations. This could alert night migrants to the presence of turbines;

Power Lines – It is anticipated that all power lines would be buried. If any above-ground power lines are installed the following mitigations would be applied.

- Power lines will be buried, wherever possible;
- Minimize the use of guy wires, whenever possible;
- Use bird deflectors on power transmission lines;
- Install raptor perch prevention devices on aboveground power line poles;
- Avoid bird electrocution by placing sufficient space between power line wires;
- Take corrective actions as needed and as reviewed by a Wildlife Technical Advisory Committee;

General Wildlife

- Place turbines at least ½ mile from golden eagle nests;
- Establish and sign speed limits for all vehicles on roads;
- Restrict project vehicles to established roadways as much as practicable;
- All new fences built as part of the project should be wildlife friendly (smooth wire on top, minimum of 16 inches between ground and bottom wire) when landowner agrees;
- Work with landowner to reduce stress and cumulative adverse impacts to antelope through a voluntary program that might include removing and/or replacing portions of fence or leaving strategic openings in fences to allow easier passage for antelope if acceptable to the landowner and opportunities to make improvements arise;
- Minimize construction of new roads as much as feasible;

Habitat Loss/Degradation

- Plant only native vegetation at any disturbed site outside of cropland;
- Prevent or limit the spread of invasive weeds into the project area;
- Prevent or discourage new invaders (invasive weed species not previously reported from establishing in the project area; and,
- Cooperate with county and state agencies and adjacent private landowners interested in managing invasive weeds.
- Prior to entry of construction equipment on state land all construction equipment will be power washed to avoid transporting noxious weed seed onto state land.

Mitigation Measures for Visual Resources

The turbines should be painted with a flat gray or white, non-reflective paint. This color scheme would cause the wind turbines to appear to recede more quickly as viewing distance increases. To mitigate short-term visual resource impacts, vegetation disturbance and the number of cuts and fills for access roads should be minimized. The landscape should be reshaped to its original contour and disturbed areas should be promptly re-vegetated.